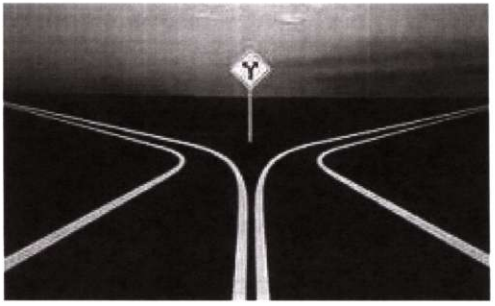
MCC
METROPOLITAN
COMMUNITY CHURCH
OF THE LEHIGH VALLEY

Sunday, August 31, 2014
12th Pentecost



Journey through Matthew, Part I

930 North 4th Street ♦ Allentown, PA 18102
610-709-8800 ♦ info@mcclv.org ♦ www.mcclv.org

The Mission of MCCLV is to call all people to a holy life in Christ, changing lives and transforming the world

MCC LEHIGH VALLEY ORDER OF SERVICE

As you prepare for worship, take a few moments to reflect on the current state of your relationship with God. Is the communication channel completely open and free of any cross-traffic that might interfere with your ability to hear from God? What do you need to let go of, so that you may let God take control? Close your eyes, take a deep breath and let worship begin for you...

Opening Song

Call to Worship

Invitation to Ministry

A Time of Praise (3 Songs)

Prayer Preparation Song

Prayer

Scripture Reading

Children's Blessing

Message

Song of Response

Offering

Offering Song

Communion

Communion Song

Prayer Over Gifts

Closing Song

Commission & Blessing

Notes From MCCLV Office

Administrative Assistant Paula Merkel
Office Hours:
Monday: 8am-2pm
Tues-Thurs: 8am-1pm
Fri: 8am-12 noon

*****Please Note*****
The office will be closed Monday, September 1, 2014 in observance of Labor Day

Audio-Visual Support: Anyone planning an event at MCCLV **is required to email avteam@mcclv.org at least 2 weeks** in advance to arrange any needed AV support. The church may not be able to honor last minute requests.

Space Reservation: Any individual or group wishing to schedule a meeting or event at the church **is required to fill out a space reservation form**. Write to office@mcclv.org more information.

Sunday Bulletin & Announcements

The deadline for all bulletin notices & announcements is **Wednesday at noon** – email to office@mcclv.org

Looking for low-cost space for you birthday party or family celebration? Consider MCCLV's Fellowship Hall for your gathering! Contact Administrative Assistant Paula Merkel at 610-709-8800 or e-mail office@mcclv.org for more information.

MCCLV IS ON YOUTUBE!
To view and subscribe to our channel go to **www.youtube.com** and search **MCC LV**.

MCC
METROPOLITAN
COMMUNITY CHURCH
OF THE LEHIGH VALLEY

8th ANNUAL TRICKY TRAY BASKET RAFFLE

TAILGATE PARTY

SATURDAY
NOVEMBER 8, 2014

Doors Open at 9 AM

Drawing Begins at 12 NOON

American Club of Coplay Pavilion
300 Cherry Street
Coplay, PA 18037

TICKET PRICE: $25.00 (non-refundable)
Includes Tailgate Party Luncheon

To pre-purchase tickets (space is limited)
Email: TrickyTrayMCCLV@gmail.com
or see a Tricky Tray Committee Member

Personal checks at the door require photo ID
MasterCard and VISA accepted day of event

Over 100
Fabulous Prizes to Win!
Flat Screen LCD/HDTV
Lenovo Laptop
Microsoft Surface
eReader
Dyson Vacuum
Keurig Coffee Maker
Blue Ray Player
Children's Electronics
Coach Purse
Cookware
Lottery Ticket Trees

PLUS
Fantastic Gift Cards!
Cash Prizes!
Door Prizes!

All proceeds raised will benefit the Communities and Missions served by:
Metropolitan Community Church of the Lehigh Valley
930 North 4th St., First Floor ~ Allentown, PA 18102 ~ 610-709-8800
The Mission of MCCLV is to call all people to a holy life in Christ, changing lives and transforming the world!

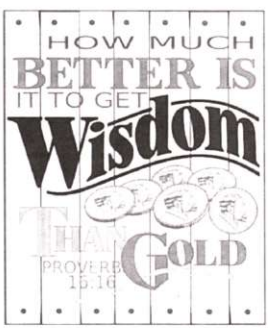
Work Sundays?
Not a "morning person"?
Want more options with worship?
Don't want to go anywhere or do anything on a Sunday?

Coming February 21, 2015 @ MCCLV
Weekly Saturday Evening
5:15pm Worship Service

.Want to Grow in Wisdom and Knowledge?

Make a six night commitment this coming Autumn that will transform your life! Join in a six-part Adult Bible Study, meeting Wednesdays at 7:00pm. Get an in-depth look at six important New Testament letters and be forever changed!

October 15: Galatians
October 22: Ephesians
October 29: Philippians
November 5: Colossians
November 12: 1 Thessalonians
November 19: 2 Thessalonians



MCCLV Members Aim For 10%!

PERCENTAGE OF GIVING CHART

ANNUAL INCOME	1% WEEKLY	2% WEEKLY	3% WEEKLY	4% WEEKLY	5% WEEKLY	6% WEEKLY	7% WEEKLY	8% WEEKLY	9% WEEKLY	10% WEEKLY
$ 25,000	$ 5	$ 10	$ 14	$ 19	$ 24	$ 29	$ 34	$ 38	$ 43	$ 48
$ 35,000	$ 7	$ 13	$ 20	$ 27	$ 34	$ 40	$ 47	$ 54	$ 61	$ 67
$ 45,000	$ 9	$ 17	$ 26	$ 35	$ 43	$ 52	$ 61	$ 69	$ 78	$ 87
$ 55,000	$ 11	$ 21	$ 32	$ 42	$ 53	$ 63	$ 74	$ 85	$ 95	$ 106
$ 65,000	$ 13	$ 25	$ 38	$ 50	$ 63	$ 75	$ 88	$ 100	$ 113	$ 125
$ 75,000	$ 14	$ 29	$ 43	$ 58	$ 72	$ 87	$ 101	$ 115	$ 130	$ 144
$ 85,000	$ 16	$ 33	$ 49	$ 65	$ 82	$ 98	$ 114	$ 131	$ 147	$ 163
$ 95,000	$ 18	$ 37	$ 55	$ 73	$ 91	$ 110	$ 128	$ 146	$ 164	$ 183
$ 105,000	$ 20	$ 40	$ 61	$ 81	$ 101	$ 121	$ 141	$ 162	$ 182	$ 202
$ 115,000	$ 22	$ 44	$ 66	$ 88	$ 111	$ 133	$ 155	$ 177	$ 199	$ 221
$ 125,000	$ 24	$ 48	$ 72	$ 96	$ 120	$ 144	$ 168	$ 192	$ 216	$ 240
$ 135,000	$ 26	$ 52	$ 78	$ 104	$ 130	$ 156	$ 182	$ 208	$ 234	$ 260
$ 145,000	$ 28	$ 56	$ 84	$ 112	$ 139	$ 167	$ 195	$ 223	$ 251	$ 279
$ 155,000	$ 30	$ 60	$ 89	$ 119	$ 149	$ 179	$ 209	$ 238	$ 268	$ 298

10 Reasons For Sunday School
(Children & Youth Spiritual Formation)

SUNDAY SCHOOL
Make the Connection

While sleeping late can be nice, have you considered the benefits of Sunday School attendance for your child? MCCLV offers Spiritual Formation for Children & Youth at 9:00am Sundays starting September 14.

Here are 10 reasons to make it a priority in your family:

1. **Age Targeted Teaching**: Where else can your kids receive spiritual instruction that's focused toward their developmental abilities?

2. **Friends**: In Children & Youth Spiritual Formation, your child will build positive friendships with their peers by discovering God's Word together.

3. **It's Fun**: Sunday School is not Disneyland, but MCCLV's teachers do work hard to teach spiritual values in ways that are relevant and fun for kids.

4. **Spiritual Mentors**: A dedicated teacher can be a Christian role model who supports you and helps inspire the faith of your child.

5. **Foundational Bible Learning**: The curriculum is designed to give a broad view of scripture, so children and youth will have a solid Biblical foundation.

6. **Praying Teachers**: MCCLV's teachers consistently pray for your child's faith to grow. Coming to Children & Youth Spiritual Formation gives another occasion for God to answer those requests.

7. **Big Reward For a Small Investment**: If you're already coming to church, just come a little earlier. That one change will equal over 800 hours of additional Christian teaching before your child graduates from High School!

8. **Send the Right Message**: Making Children & Youth Spiritual Formation a priority shows your kids that God's Word really does matter more than pillow-time.

9. **Adult Spiritual Formation**: While the children enjoy their class, you can learn with other adults in your own Adult Spiritual Formation class (also at 9:00am).

10. **You'll Be On Time**: Families who come to Children, Youth & Adult Spiritual Formation always get to worship on time. It's the easiest way to avoid being late.

FORGE A stronger relationship with Christ and one another—join a FORGE group!

A FORGE group **is not** a Bible study, Christian training session, group therapy, nor a doctrinal boot camp.

A FORGE group **is** a small, relational gathering of Christians, primarily focused on **transformation** and not information, where people learn how to interpret their entire lives through the lens of gospel and grow in faith in Christ.

Groups meet every other week for one hour—for worship, prayer, devotionals, testimonies and fellowship. Although groups are spread out geographically (South, East and West) to make them easier to get to, you may attend
whichever group you choose, even if it is not the one nearest you.

***Contact group leaders to learn more ***

FORGE South Leaders:
Loreli Bauer **lorelibauer@aol.com**
Elaine Ely **pastor_elaine@yahoo.com**

FORGE East Leaders:
Barb Baus
babaus@hotmail.com
Lauren Sheldon
laurenesheldon@gmail.com

FORGE West Leaders:
Scott George **smgmcclv@gmail.com**
Ron Smith **rsmith.mcclv@gmail.com**

MCCLV's Prayer Team

If you have an urgent prayer request, please email the Prayer Team at **prayer.team@mcclv.org.** *Your prayer need will go out to over 70 people who are on MCCLV's Prayer Team. Also, if you'd like to be on this dedicated team, please let MCCLV know by emailing the Prayer Team.*

Early Morning Prayer -- Every Sunday at 8:00 AM -- MCCLV's Prayer Room

Prayer Develops Our Relationship with God.

If we never speak to our friends or never listen to anything they might have to say to us, our relationships will quickly deteriorate. It is the same way with God. Prayer - communicating with God helps us grow closer and more intimately connected with God.

Zechariah 13:9

I will bring that group through the fire and make them pure, just as gold and silver are refined and purified by fire. They will call on my name, and I will answer them. I will say, 'These are my people,' and they will say, 'The LORD is our God.' (NLT)

Are you in need of individual prayer?

MCCLV's Prayer Room is reserved every Sunday after Worship for intercessory prayer. See Loreli Bauer who will arrange a deacon to pray with you.

You may also email Loreli: lorelibauer@aol.com

LAST LIFE LESSONS SEMINAR!!
Packed Full of Knowledge and Wisdom

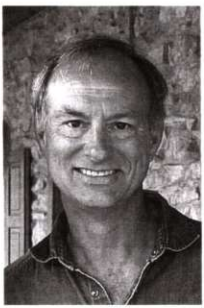
Life Lesson Seminar September 7th -- Family Formation: Adoption and Assisted Reproductive Technology Law in PA Today

With advances in reproductive medicine and the hopeful evolution of the law, couples now can use adoption, gestational carriers/surrogates, or ovum, embryo or sperm donors to have the family they've always dreamed of. Attorney Dorota Gasienica-Kozak will discuss the spectrum of choices and offer some insight on how families' needs are emerging with the changes in the law.

Dorota Gasienica-Kozak is a partner with the KingSpry Law Firm and chair of the firm's Adoption/Assisted Reproductive Technology Law Practice. KingSpry is a full service, LGBT-friendly firm, practicing in adoption, assisted reproductive technology, business, employment, estates/trusts, family, immigration, and real estate law. More information at www.kingspry.com.

For more information, see Barb Baus or email Karl Steiner,karl.steiner@mcclv.org.

Congregational Care



Are you in need of care -- a sister or brother in Christ to pray with you, visit you in the hospital or your home, listen to your spiritual needs? MCCLV is here to help you through life's challenges. Please contact Karl Steiner, karl.steiner@mcclv.org.

Children's Sunday School

MCCLV is excited to announce the official "kick off "of the 2014-2015 Sunday School year! The Sunday school year will officially launch on Sunday, September 14, 2014. If you have, or know of, school age children (within the age range from Kindergarten to Sixth Grade) who would benefit from this essential, spiritually formative ministry of the church please consider enrolling them. MCCLV's team of talented teachers are excited and feel privileged to provide the church's children with life forming, positive spiritual experiences! Classes begin at 9:00am every Sunday morning at MCCLV. For more information please contact children's ministry coordinator Sue Carpenter at sue.carpenter@voya.com.

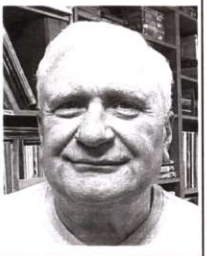
You will be judged in the
same way you judge others,
And the amount you give to others
will be given to you.
(Matthew 7:2)

MCCLV Retirees are Gathering

Every 2nd & 4th Tuesday, MCCLV Retirees meet from 9:30 to 11:00 AM in MCCLV's Fellowship Hall.

Come and join the laughter and conversation.

Contact George Cabot,
george.cabot@yahoo.com,
or Karl Steiner, karl.steiner@mcclv.org,
for more information.



MCCLV's Annual Free Market

Free Fruits and Vegetables

September 7, 14, 21 & 28
1:00pm—2:00pm
(While Supplies Last)

This event is an outreach to MCCLV's Neighbors and Surrounding Community

Contact Barb Baus @ barb.baus@mcclv.org to donate, volunteer or for more info.

Metropolitan Community Church of the Lehigh Valley
930 North 4th Street, First Floor, Allentown, PA 18102

Donations Of Fresh Produce Needed

Following worship service September 7th, 14th, 21st and 28th, MCCLV will be holding a Free Market for our neighbors. If you have extra produce from your garden, please consider donating it to the market.

Contact Barb Baus at barb.baus@mcclv.org or see her after worship for more details

MCCLV'S COMMUNITY FOOD PANTRY

Open every Sunday at 12:00-1:00 PM to serve the community. The pantry is in need of donation. Drop off your items in front of the pantry door. Thank you!

MCCLV is collecting donations for food cards every **2nd Sunday of the month** after the worship service. Consider making a donation to help those in great need of reducing their grocery store bills.

Help Out MCCLV's Pastor

Do you enjoy reading novels in a variety of genres? Your help is needed! Pastor Elizabeth Goudy will have a rough draft of her book prepared following her sabbatical months August-September,2014. A group is needed to read through the manuscript in October, 2014. This is a short-term activity but will require a high level of commitment and focus. If you are willing to serve in this capacity, contact rev.goudy@mcclv.org. Also if you have experience with the publishing industry or using a literary agent, email the Pastor.

20/30s Young Men's Group

Are you in your 20s or 30s? Looking for some fun and fellowship? Would you like to connect with others in your age group? Join the fabulous 20s30s crew at their regular gatherings the **First Friday at 7pm** at MCCLV. It's a great place to meet others with common goals and kindred spiritual journeys.

For details contact Scott George
e-mail: smgmcclv@gmail.com

DEALING WITH THE PAIN OF A LOSS?

Loss and grief are part of life, but can be difficult to process alone. MCCLV is hosting Elaine Ely, a trained, experienced and certified specialist in the areas of end-of-life issues, loss and grief.

Her current hours at the church are:
Wednesdays from 11:30 am to 2:30 pm
(other hours can be arranged upon request).

For a single consultation or on-going counseling, reach her at elaine.ely.pastor@gmail.com or 215-915-4370.

Also, watch for details on an up-coming workshop: "Facing Grief - Yours and Other's", and a 6 week support group series to be offered this fall.

ATTENTION!

The church has become aware that some of the folks receiving items from MCCLV's food pantry are also asking congregants for money outside our front door. You are urged **NOT** to give any funds to these people, but do refer them to Barb Baus, Ministry Coordinator for Outreach and Justice, who can provide them with food cards as available and refer them to the appropriate social agencies to meet their needs.

AV Team Needs You!

Do you enjoy techie things? Interested in how the technology at MCCLV comes together? Come see how the equipment works and get hands-on experience! The AV team is hosting a play day on **Tuesday, August 26 at 7pm** in the Sanctuary.

See Jeff Hayes or e-mail avteam@mcclv.org for more details.

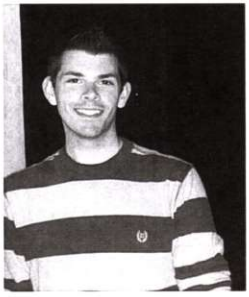
MCCLV IS ON FACEBOOK!
Search **MCC Lehigh Valley.** All MCCLV related posts and tags will be approved through the office. Thank you for your cooperation!

Policy & Procedure Committee

All strong organizations run smoothly with clear policies and procedures in place. Do you have a heart for ensuring the safety of the church's children? Do you believe in the benefits of Direct Dealing? Would you like to equip MCCLV with the proper tools to be the place God is calling the church to be?

Meets 4th Sundays
For more information, please see
Lauren Sheldon: laurenesheldon@gmail.com or
Emma Marrero:emma.marrero@kidspeace.org

FELLOWSHIP MINISTRY NEWS



Cheryl Wenhold and Ashley Richard are the new co-chairpersons of MCCLV's Fellowship Ministry! Praise God for their willingness to share their time, talent and treasure in this important l ead-ership role. Cheryl and Ashley will be assessing all aspects of fellowship at MCCLV and developing a Fellowship Plan for the rest of 2014 and 2015. If you have any ideas or would like to help with fellowship events, please see Ashley or Cheryl following worship.

"The aim of God in history is the creation of an all-inclusive community of loving persons, with Himself included in that community as its prime sustainer and most glorious inhabitant."
(Dallas Willard)

September is "Special Welcome Month" at MCCLV

All are encouraged to bring a friend to Church so they too may experience the energy of MCCLV's worship and the fellowship of our radically inclusive Christian community in the Lehigh Valley. Summer is ending and Fall begins bringing a new season to our lives on September 22, 2014 at 10:29 P.M. EDT. MCCLV's Sunday School begins, Sunday, September 14, 2014. What a perfect time to introduce your friends to MCCLV.

Quote Of The Day

**You can close your eyes to things
you don't want to see,
but you can't close your heart to things
you don't want to feel.**

(Johnny Depp)

Word Arts Ministry

WORD ALIVE (formerly, the Worship Arts Ministry) will be meeting on **Sunday, September 21, 2014 at 12:15pm** for those who are currently involved and those who are interested in becoming a part of this creative ministry of bringing the Scriptures to life.

If you are interested, please contact Dean Hiatt in person or at dean.hiatt@mcclv.org.

Stewardship Team Meets 4th Sunday of Month

MCCLV's Stewardship Team meets the 4th Sunday of the month at 9:00am. Come to these great gatherings and help plan things like the church's annual pledge drive. All are welcome to participate.

Contact Jim Harbst at jim.harbst@icloud.com for more information.

Coverages During Pastor's Sabbatical

MCCLV Pastor Elizabeth Goudy is on Sabbatical during the months of August & September, 2014 (and January, 2015).

Below is a listing of coverages:

Serving as Ministry Coordinator Meetings Facilitator:
Brian Jones (brian.jones@mcclv.org)

Serving as Board Moderator:
Emma Marrero (autleaves@aol.com)

Serving as Church-Share Point Person:
Emma Marrero (autleaves@aol.com)

Serving as Staff Meeting Facilitator:
Brian Jones (brian.jones@mcclv.org)

Serving as Preachers:
Rev. Jen Glass, Randy D'Angelo, Robert Schotter

Serving as Main Worship Leader:
Karl Steiner (karl.steiner@mcclv.org)

Serving as Care Coordinator
(hospitalizations, home visits, etc.): Karl Steiner (karl.steiner@mcclv.org)

Serving as Weddings & Funerals Officiant:
Rev. Elaine Ely (pastor_elaine@yahoo.com)

Serving as Bulletin Editor:
Lauren Sheldon (laurenesheldon@gmail.com)

Serving as e-Listserve Editor:
Barb Colvin (bjc7500@yahoo.com)

WELD at MCCLV!

Interesting in making a membership commitment with Metropolitan Community Church of the Lehigh Valley? Participants in MCCLV's WELD church membership process become more closely welded to God and to one another. WELD is a four-part series that is required for new members and is open to anyone wanting more information about the church. There will be an **informational session on Sunday, October 5** following Sunday morning worship. **WELD classes take place on October 7, 14, 21 & 28 at 7:00pm.** Experience connection with God and brothers and sisters in Christ through MCCLV's WELD.

For more information see Emma Marrero or e-mail her at autleaves@aol.com

Fundraising Committee Meetings

The Fundraising Committee meets following worship on the 1st Sunday of the month.

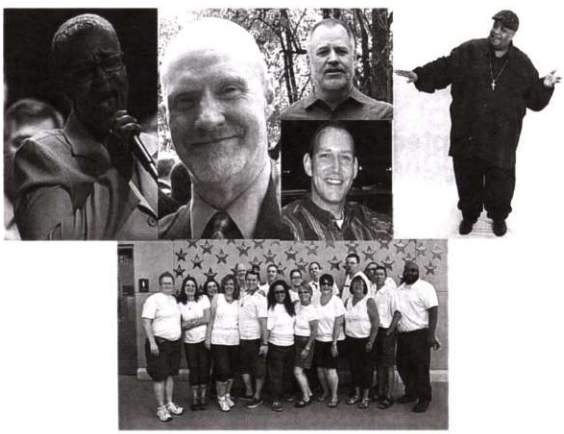
Questions, please talk to Sue Carpenter or-email sue.carpenter@voya.com

Singspiration 2014

Metropolitan Community Church of the Lehigh Valley
930 North 4th Street, First Floor, Allentown, PA 18102
610-709-8800 www.mcclv.org

"Singin' With the Saints" Free Concert

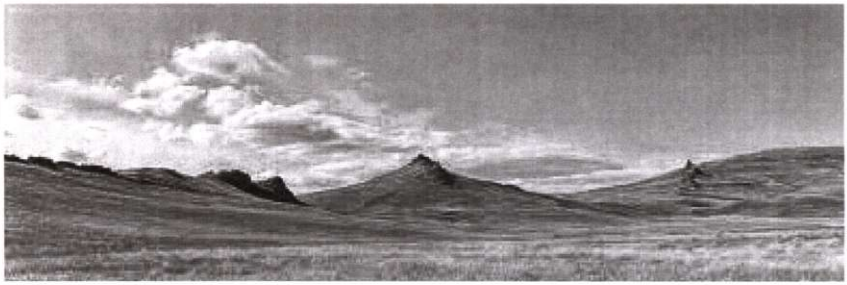
Saturday, September 27 @ 6:00pm



Hosted By:
MCCLV Music and Worship Director Brian Jones and Dean Hiatt

Featuring:
Anthony Young & Unity of the Lehigh Valley Choir
Minister Cheryl Bragg
Mike Swartz and the Voices of Spirit
Wanda Brothers
Brian Jones and B.A.S.I.C.

For more info contact: Brian.jones@mcclv.org



UPCOMING WORSHIP AT MCCLV

13th Pentecost: September 7, 2014 @ 10:30am
Scripture Reading: Matthew 18:15-20
Preaching: Rev. Jen Glass
Sermon Title: **"Journey Through Matthew, Part II"**

14th Pentecost: September 14, 2014 @ 10:30am
Scripture Reading: Matthew 18:21-35
Preaching: Rev. Jen Glass
Sermon Title: **"Journey Through Matthew, Part III"**

15th Pentecost: September 21, 2014 @ 10:30am
Scripture Reading: Matthew 20:1-16
Preaching: Rev. Jen Glass
Sermon Title: **"Journey Through Matthew, Part IV"**

16th Pentecost: September 28, 2014@10:30am
Scripture Reading: Psalm 100
Preaching; Rev. Jen Glass
Sermon Title: **"Sing Praises to God"**

17th Pentecost: October 5, 2014 @ 10:30am
Scripture Reading: 1 Timothy 1:12-17
Preaching: Rev. Elizabeth Goudy
Sermon Title: **"Harvest Gratitude"**

18th Pentecost: October 12, 2014 @ 10:30am
Scripture Reading: 2 Corinthians 5:16-21
Preaching: Rev. Elizabeth Goudy
Sermon Title: **"Harvest Reconciliation"**

Today's Scripture Reading:

Matthew 16:21-28

From that time on, Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, 'God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you.' But he turned and said to Peter, 'Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling-block to me; for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.'
Then Jesus told his disciples, 'If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life?
'For the Sovereign One is to come with the angels in the glory of God, and then will repay everyone for what has been done. Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Sovereign One coming in power and glory.

MCCLV's Weekly 2014 Budgeted for Giving is $3,916.98

Date	Attendance	Giving
8/24/2014	84	$4,860.55
8/17/2014	73	$1,942.66
8/10/2014	83	$1,508.06
8/03/2014	91	$1,442.90

Full financial reporting is provided at the Board meeting on the 2nd Sunday of every month. All are welcome to attend. Additionally, reports may be viewed in the Board binder in the Library.

MCCLV MINISTRY COORDINATORS

Congregational Care & Health:
Karl Steiner | karl.steiner@mcclv.org
20s30s Young Men's Group, G.I.F.T. Young Women's Group, MCCLV Retirees, HIV Support, Drumming Circle, Fellowship, Visitor Team, Prayer Team, Reconciliation & Affirmation, Grief Counseling & Deacon Care

Spiritual Formation:
See Rev. Goudy for more information
FORGE Groups, Adult Spiritual Formation and Children & Youth Spiritual Formation

Outreach & Justice:
Barb Baus | barb.baus@mcclv.org
Evangelism, Free Market, Silent Witness, Food Pantry and Helping Hands Ministry

Media & Marketing:
See Rev. Goudy for more information
Communications and Marketing Ministry

Denominational Representatives:
Lay Delegates Hope Hilby and Normana Schaaf

MCCLV BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Sue Carpenter, Jim Harbst, Diana LaTorre, Emma Marrero, Lauren Sheldon and Ron Smith
If you would like an item included on the Board agenda see any Board Member

MCCLV DEACONS

Loreli Bauer, Maricel Concepcion, Clarence Freed, Hope Hilby, Jessica Mitchell, Normana Schaaf, Karl Steiner and Carol Stevens

MCCLV STAFF

Pastor: Elizabeth Goudy | rev.goudy@mcclv.org
Music and Worship Director: Brian Jones | brian.jones@mcclv.org
Administrative Assistant: Paula Merkel | office@mcclv.org